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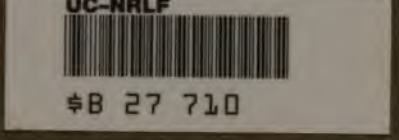

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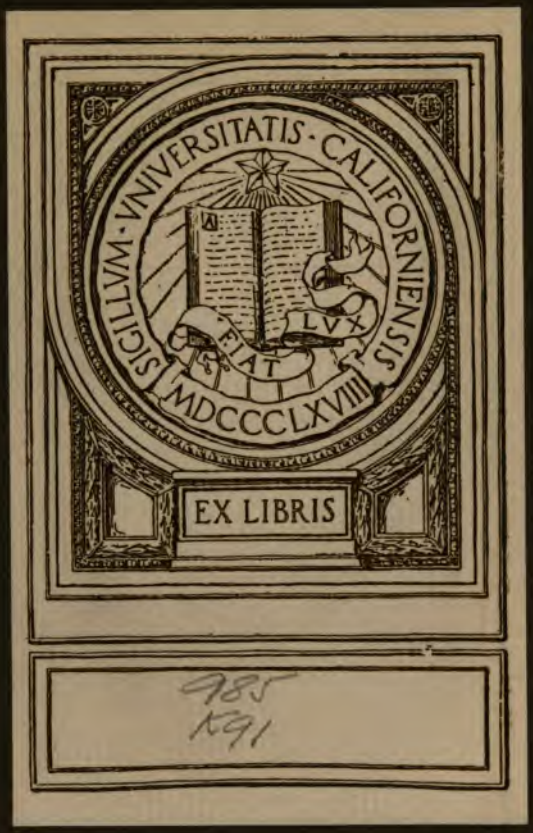

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FOUR POEMS:

BY

WILLIAM E. F. KRAUSE.

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1. The Destiny of Mankind, or the Redeemed Savage.
2. The Christian's Cross, borne by Faith, Hope and Charity.
3. The Advance of the United States, or the Test of Brotherly Love.
4. Heaven's Record of Mankind, or the Birth of a Child.

SAN FRANCISCO:
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1868.

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Preface.

A POET is he whose soul divine prevents the fleeting thoughts of the moment from at once being absorbed by some general intention, or altogether directed towards the earnest pursuit of an instantaneous object in daily practical life; but who firstly and gently gathers them all on the calm and serene surface of an unperturbed conscience, where they, like the rays of the sun on a sheltered lake, can playfully reflect in their purity, and under the very eye of God learn to love each other, forming one harmonious bevy of happiness, and, as such, amidst mirth and hilarity glide into and down the heart's most fervent stream, until at last they reach the broad ocean of terrestrial life, and disperse.

Krause.

San Francisco, July 4th, 1868.

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UNIV. OF CALIFORNIA

The Destiny of Mankind;

OR,

THE REDEEMED SAVAGE.

1.

WITHIN my soul's illimitable sphere sweet thoughts arise and wean—
From whence they come, nor hence they go, my mind has nought to glean;
One at a time, each loving, chasingly they skirt the entire orbit of the world outside,
As if it were their privilege to befriend and shelter it inside.

2.

But when the vision is at rest, the mortal eye is fixed above
The human being, clogged to earth, here born to learn to wait to die—
Then do my thoughts collect in force, and center into love
Of all my Father's blissful heavens, His world beneath to try.

3.

Inanimate appears the shapeless earth, composed of dust once animate

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In myriads of living objects, through countless ages past—
Eternally to swim in ether, the celestial sea to navigate;
The prerogative of God's divinity! His most holy chaos vast!

4.

At the hallowed shrine of intensest love of mine of God within my soul—
Of all his greatness, fullness, goodness—I forget the "past";
The human frame of animated clay is all the mould
Reminding me of "now," while "future" is the paradise toward which my life ebbs fast.

5.

Recorded by Him above is my existence here below, that this very day of sublunary life He graciously has granted me!
. . On the magnificent canopy of Heaven, indescribably, beautifully, grandly and superbly rose Aurora,
To illuminate my well-known path, arouse my soul to action, to beckon me to be
Deserving of the gracious trust to call this world my own, in labor honest, virtuous all, and to expect from Him diploma.

6.

To labor is to roam o'er earth in praise of God in Heaven, and not in search of only food and shelter,
Of raiment bare, of wrathful and devouring passions, as beyond those seas where "man," a "growth," still vegetates,
To welter in cannibalic slothfulness as species of mammalia!
A truce to lethargy and all delay there to administer cammeralia.

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7.

The apollonic savage and his soul—your soul!—forgotten?
Mercy, oh Father! Enough for me to know
That, forsaken, at my feet, on this roaming, foaming, hissing ball of fire,
He lives!! his forlorn weakness calling my inborn strength complete to show
I live!?—loving you, while flying to him affectionately to regulate the yearnings of the soul between us sires.

8.

No longer is the Missionary only confessedly the Christian's truest advocate,
Who pledges there his solitary life as ransom for the soul belate.
It is America's enlightened nation, the humane of the human of the earth,
Now goes abroad on this occasion, on errands of holy charity, dispelling dearth.

9.

Draw forth with full alacrity, oh Nation of the Free!
The kindred friend from jungles, which lacerate his soul far worse than the tangled botany to see,
Which hides his idols hewn, obstructing the path of faith in man's Redeemer,
And make a "man" of him! His image is there as man; sufficient reason! Blessed be the manly schemer.

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10.

Oh hark! the well-known sound, (enormous proof of man's capacious mind,) familiar to all but yonder Antipodean's ear and Budha.

It nears, electrifying mountain ridges to echo forth to earth's limits, America's magnanimous nation's word, that aid is nigh of freedom to the last one born, all over God's own terra firma.

Behold, oh World entire! the firmest pledge of earnestness from genius grand, within mortal's reach, to obey the divine commands of Christendom!

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The Christian's Cross,

BORNE BY

FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY.

Faith.

1.

PROSTRATE bends the form of man,
Faintly breathing life yet mine,
When forsaken is the passions' den,
The furies flown before the specter of the soul divine.

2.

Unvanquishable proves the faith in God;
Child-like the trust in Him, my all;
Inspiring soul, commanding body
But to uplift the eye, the living truth to call.

3.

And when the soul has been with Him,
Descending tidings of the heavenly bliss
Gush to the heart to save it breaking.
Then does the geniality of Faith begin,

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Diffusing warmth, while angels kiss
The brow of him or her desponding.

4.

Reblessed the soul, man is himself
Born again—to duty born,
Assigned to him from Heaven:
To live to love his neighbor as himself;
To love to labor, and to govern well
Himself before all others.

5.

The harmony of birth and death,
Encircling time, makes life at best
A ceaseless, stepless progress
From the cradle to the grave on earth;
A brilliant mirage of the soul thus blessed,
Lit up by Faith, and crownless.

Hope.

As in minute proportion of intensity
Of truthfulness as to immensity
Of our love of God, Jehovah's Lord,
Almighty in Eternity,
The kindred grace, the Holy Ghost, received from Him, the Father,

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Through His Son, who as Redeemer glorious of our sins,
Lived and died on earth—a life and death of eternal truth,
And proof how to here "exist" in heaven all to gather—
Stands the godly strength of our inward anchor, wrought
In the firmamental fires of Elysium,
By angels' hands, in Paradise bethought
From matter all divine and bonum.
As virtues are "morality," the cause supreme "eternal love"
from spheres celestial, which know no vacuum—
Within th' immortal soul's unfathomable depth,
There to firmly ride at and preserve without a cleft,
In storms of life's terrestrial duration,
The safety of all beings stationed
In frames of clay, beautifully animate
In human shape, by millions born, anon to die, are made,
In nations clustered, by race assorted,
In colors tulip-like variegated, but not by species inhumanly
distorted—
On board the ship of Life, with but one charter,
Bound heavenward, where there is no sin to martyr.

So is Hope in safety above synonymous of the aforesaid anchor
Beneath, to save our lives from rancor
Of all hermaphrodites in wisdom,
To make her, the "insured in heaven," sink to bottom,
That all on board might perish, and not reach the heavenly
kingdom—

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By dashing against her potent sides impotently their slam of
vices,
Of unbelief and passions unsubdued,
Too manifold to mention, nor in Heaven to be sued.

Charity.

1.

INTERNALLY of earth the element of fire
Eternally consumes all substance left to mire;
Explosive matters aiding expelling force to reach,
The crust of earth erupting into crests and elevations each.

2.

Water, oceans vast, the mother earth surrounds,
Its depth of unknown fathom, in cold blood life abounds;
That depth from surface, as earth's surface rose to height,
To equivalence the general weight of empty earth's might,

3.

That the gaseous, igneous ball, with its transparent shell,
Much lighter than the air we breathe,
Might swim in range empyrean, and well
Shed brilliant lustre to the stars beneath.

4.

Such is the blissful state of mind
That, half divine, we half define

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God's omnipotence of doing.
His mercy is His charity,
That, half corporeal, we half must be
Unto death in ignorance of knowing.

5.

The monarch towering highest, forlorn, above his fellow-men,
His brow of icy clamminess, his heart a frozen den,
Is not unlike the desolate mountain peak,
Snow-clad above the clouds, no thaw does meet,

6.

While down below, in valleys green,
Amidst foliage and flowers' screen,
In balmy air and everywhere,
Man meets man as brother;

7.

To wander, arm in arm, through life,
With love, affection, and delight,
In each other's virtues bright,
Until death calls us to Father.

8.

The leviathans of the deep, numerous as millions,
Skirtingly the surface sweep, counting leagues by billions;
And the silvery tiny specimens, in creeks and ponds by trillions;
All are attracted by the loving sun—
A proof of how His will is done.

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9.

God's love is our bulwark strong—
Minds of the human race belong
To life long search of wisdom.
This search the child commences,
In A B C books, on free benches,
Under Education's universal tabernacle.

10.

Inalienable is the sacred right to knowledge;
The mind its treasure is God's direct bequest
To all of them in every clime;
Arrayed are they aside each other,
To measure well the heavenly treasure—
Through life's span the most substantial mine.

11.

As men are we fraternal, where we are
Wandering aside each other's voluntary choice of friendship,
As each nation is a kindred toss so far
Of all the nation's living brethren.

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The Advance of the United States,

OR,

THE TEST OF BROTHERLY LOVE.

1.

FROM San Francisco's Golden Gate
To Asia and to Oceanica;
From New York is our conjoint fate
To Europe and to Africa;
To embrace the world in freedom,
One universal patria.

2.

Enlightening the nations of the earth,
As we are here so they might there be blessed,
By educating freely all millions uncrested,
That labor is the right divine of all,
As life itself is subject to God's only call—
This is America's glorious destiny, in after ages to be tested.

3.

For labor is all virtue's pristine origin;
Therefore civilization is the application
Of its united voluntary force;
Enabling the soul to shed its heavenly light,
With mind's most vivid intellectual flashes,
Profusely on every action in duty's life long course.

4.

To regulate its power, sustaining mind and body,
Education only rouses all understanding thoroughly,

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Which places man in free and independent circumstances.
Man is his only master here on earth;
All Governments the honored confidential guardians
Of an enlightened nation's general welfare and defences.

5.

The reward of labor is contentment
With Life's most general ordeal,
When motives' cheer make conscience clear, happiness is sent
By Heaven's graces to us all.
We find repose—sweet home's eternal lent—
Where virtues all respond to Love's incessant call.

6.

Thucydides' name his fame has still preserved,
Astonishing to now repeat and hold reserved
The ancient Greek's conspicuous wisdom.
He said: "Great men are formed by best rewarding their merits."
Justice's earthly pivot then in Pagandom;
Justice's heavenly aid it's now in Christendom.

7.

Therefore, the great historian is right as he is wrong,
That man should rise above his fellow-men in power;
But right is he, a reward fair should enable him to shower
A mass of moral good among the brotherly throng,
Acknowledged by their heart's esteem,
A brother's hand with love redeem.

8.

From Europe the courageous Pilgrims came,
Here to plant the Tree of Liberty in freedom's wake,
Indigenous in every soil of universal knowledge' state.
It passed its early growth in quiet—

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Its vigorous roots not gnawed by vices
Of trans-Atlantic manifold devices.

9.

Until a century plant it nearly is,
This tree imperishable as every life is His!
Under the broad canopy of Heaven.
No visible height, no crown, no age, but evergreen its constant growth,
Like love in hearts of purity, for ever, gently flows,
Until its grateful shadow shall reach all.

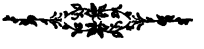
10.

Its vital marrow is our faith divine,
Its branches' densest leaves accomplished wisdom
Of how under it eternal rest to find.
This is the destiny of the United States:
Uncounted millions, by their superior strength within, and unconquerable from without,
Eternally advancing, reaching, shielding the last of mankind.

Heaven's Record of Mankind,

OR,

THE BIRTH OF A CHILD.



1.

THE father's soul communes with God!
All thoughts have fleeted heavenward

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And entered the one great heaven of bliss.
They gather there, where love unspeakable
Rules Universe's countless masses,
To patiently await the Heavenly Father's first-sent kiss.

2.

And when the heavenly gift has been received,
In one grand jubilee they all return,
Re-entering the soul impetuously.
The heart then ceases to beat audibly;
The sense of hearing usurps the rest of body's strength,
And conveys reality to soul gratuitously.

3.

The instant of the hour, time's untraceable heavenly line,
Has passed away. The air is rent—that element
In which the brilliant constellations rest, and sent
The feeble voice of my child to me, and you! its mother thine.
Blessed is the instant! ineffable bliss to parents' souls!
The child is born ——! extatic joy their hearts unfold.

4.

Inexpressible is the parents' gratitude to God!
Thoughts all in all fleet hence again to His abode,
To utter thanks devoutest for the divinely treasure!
Already well the cherub's life is known above
To God Almighty Father's loving care,
Who blesses now the trio, bids them reascend at leisure.

The End.

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